Levy on Cement

1254. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to impose levy on cement to prevent rise in its prices;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is always a seasonal increase in price of cement during the peak construction period. During April this year, the increase has been sharp. As advised by the Government, the cement producers have agreed to roll back their ex-stockists price to the level of 31st March, 1990. As per the reports received, the prices of cement have started coming down to the desired level. Further, Office of the Development Commissioner for Cement Industry has been advised to keep a close watch on the price movement and monitor the same. The production of cement in the country is, by and large, sufficient to meet the domestic demand.

Appointment of retired officers in the AIIMS

1255. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the authorities of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi are appointing some of their officers as O.S.Ds after their retirement;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such practice had never been adopted in the past; and

(c) if so, what corrective steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) and (b) The All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi have reported that there are, at present, two sanctioned posts of Officers on Special Duty—one to assist the President, AIIMS who is also the Minister for Helath & Family Welfare and the other for All India Post Graduate Medical Course Entrance Examination. The post of OSD to the President, AIIMS is coterminus with the President, AIIMS and the appointment to this post is done on the recommendations of the President, i.e. the Union Health Minister.

(c) Does not arise in view of the replies to (a) and (b) above.

Target of power generation in seventh and eighth plan period by NTPC

1256. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the estimated target of power generation by NTPC during the Seventh Plan;

(b) what is NTPCs estimated target of power generation during the Eighth Plan period and what is the cost involved; and

(c) when was NTPC's KAHALGAON (Bhagalpur) Project cleared; its estimated cost and by when it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) The estimated target of the NTPC for power generation during the Seventh Plan period was 110788 Million Units.

(b) The capacity addition plans, generation targets and investment programme of the Corporation during the Eighth Plan